

Dear Members of the FCC:

Your committee holds a public trust, to keep the public airwaves presenting NEWS, not diatribes. This public trust also obligates you to protect many of our freedoms, through the oversight of responsible dissemination of information. My children have been taught in school that the news media are neutral reporters of events. News people should not be permitted to engage in diatribes that are the expression of personally held opinions and label it "news." Therefore, please maintain your public trust; don't deny my children their future in a democratic society with the free exchange of information and ideas. Please do what you can to suspend the very biased airing of the Sinclair Broadcasting "stolen honor," especially based on the fact that it was created by no credible news agency.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.